

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 20 and 21 have been cancelled. Therefore, on entering this amendment, claims 15-19 and 22-30 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 15-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 15, 17, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hatano (JP 03-075688).

Claims 15-25 and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatano (JP 03-075688) in view of Parulskie et al. (USP 5,828,406) and Silverbrook et al. (USP 5,793,345).

Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leroux et al. (USP 4,846,557) in view of Parulskie et al. (USP 5,828,406) and Silverbrook et al. (USP 5,793,345).

The Applicants traverse the rejections and request reconsideration.

Formal Matters

The Examiner is requested to return a signed and initialed copy of the PTO Form 1449 that was filed on November 30, 1999.

Rejections under section 112

The Applicants amend the claim to further clarify the meaning of the term “read out” to overcome the rejection of the claims under section 112.

Rejections based on prior art

The pending base claims have been amended to specify that the density in the horizontal direction is at least three times higher than that in the vertical direction.

Rejection of claims 15, 17, 18 and 19 under section 102(e) based on Hatano.

The Applicants note that Hatano is not a US patent, and therefore, does not qualify as a prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). It is assumed that the Examiner meant the rejection to be under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

The above claims are allowable at least because Hatano does not disclose (or remotely suggest) that the density of the pixels in the horizontal direction is three times higher than that in the vertical direction for a black and white image display system.

Rejection of claims 15-25 and 29-30 based on Hatano in view of Parulskai and Silverback

All the above noted claims require that the pixels in the horizontal direction be three times higher than that in the vertical direction for a black and white image display system. As noted above, Hatano does not suggest this feature. The secondary references Parulskai and Silverback do not overcome the deficiency, noted above, in the teachings of Hatano. A skilled artisan would not have been able to make the invention recited in claims 15-25 and 29-30 based on the combined teachings of Hatano/Parulskai/Silverback.

Rejection of claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leroux in view of Parulskie and Silverback.

Claim 26 includes the limitation discussed above in relation to claims 15, 17, 18 and 19. Leroux does not disclose (or suggest) that the density of the pixels in the horizontal direction is three times higher than that in the vertical direction for a black and white image display system. As noted above, the secondary references Silverbrook and Parulskie do not overcome the deficiency, noted above, in the teachings of Leroux. A skilled artisan would not have been able to make the invention recited in claim 26 based on the combined teachings of Leroux/Parulskie/Silverback.

Allowable claims

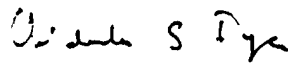
The Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 27 and 28.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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